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**PATENT
NON-FINAL**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/687,831 Confirmation No. 2004
Applicant : Toru KITAO et al.
Filed : October 20, 2003
TC/A.U. : 3751
Examiner : Peter T. DeVore
Dkt. No. : MRI-024
Cust. No. : 20374

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
TO THE FIRST OFFICE ACTION DATED JULY 14, 2004**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 15, 2004

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated July 14, 2004. A petition for a one-month extension of the period for responding to the Action is being filed concurrently herewith.

Please amend the application as directed below and consider the remarks that follow.